

(Translation of a notice from the Japanese Patent Office)



Mailing No.157801
Mailing Date: May 13, 2003

NOTIFICATION OF REASONS FOR REJECTION

Patent Application No.: 2001-285767

Examiner's Notice Date: May 7, 2003

Examiner: Syohei ISHIMARU

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Technology Center 2600

This application is rejected on the grounds stated below. Any opinion regarding this reason must be filed within SIXTY DAYS of the mailing date thereof.

REASONS

1. The application fails to satisfy the requirements under Section 37 of the Patent Law, in the following respect.
2. The application fails to satisfy the requirements under Section 36(6) of the Patent Law, on the grounds that the specification and the drawing(s) are defective in the following respect.
3. The invention described in the following claim of the present application is unpatentable under Section 29(2) of the Patent Law, as being such that it could easily have been made by a person with ordinary skill in the art to which it pertains, on the basis of the invention described in the following distributed publication or made available to the public in Japan or elsewhere prior to this application.

REMARKS

REASON 1: CLAIMS

The invention of claim 1 and the inventions of claims 2-6 are different in the problem to be solved and main portions.

The problem of the specified invention is to "quickly start decoding by

recognizing the I picture position and smoothly perform FF and FR operations (paragraph [0094] and the like)" while none of claims 2-6 has no descriptions about at least the problem of quickly recognizing the I picture position.

The main portion of the specified invention is the "unit start indicator" while that of claims 2-6 is a "medium having a data region and a management region" (and do not have, at least, descriptions about the unit start indicator). (Please note that the "main portion indispensable for the structure of the invention to be patented" is a matter which relates to a novel structure corresponding to the problem to be solved.)

In addition, the specified invention and the inventions of claims 2-6 do not satisfy the requirements under Section 37(iii) to (v) of the Patent Law.

As the present application is in violation of Section 37 of the Patent Law, the inventions of claims other than claim 1 have not yet been substantially examined with respect to the requirements other than Section 37 of the Patent Law.

REASON 2: CLAIM 1

The category of the invention of "data structure" is unclear (violation of Section 36(6)(ii)).

The "unit start indicator" cannot specify the address of the I picture by itself (paragraphs [0120], [0178] and the like). It is not considered that this is described in the "Detailed Description of Invention" (violation of Section 36(6)(i)).

REASON 3: CLAIM 1

See Reference 1. A unit start indicator of MPEG2-TS is well known as disclosed in Reference 1 or the like. Using this for the purpose of specifying the (end) address of I picture, similarly to the present invention, could easily have been conceived by a person skilled in the art (or is considered as a mere matter of design).

It is therefore considered that a person skilled in the art could easily have

accomplished the invention of claim 1 on the basis of Reference 1 or the like.

* CITED REFERENCE

1. Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 9-139937

Should new reasons be found, a new Official Action may be issued. If the application is amended, the basis of the amendment should be clarified and, if necessary, the main points of the present invention and advantages thereof over the cited reference should be discussed, in a written opinion.

PRIOR ART SEARCH REPORT

*Searched Technical Fields:

IPC 7th edition, H04N5/85, 5/91-956, G11B20/10

*Prior Art Documents:

Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 11-8834

Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 7-226032

If the applicant has any questions or wishes to have an interview, please contact Syohei ISHIMARU, the 4th Division of Patent Examination (Video Devices), Tel. 03-3581-1101, Extension 6977.